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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

MAR 2 4 2003

Frank PORTUGAL

Group Art Unit: 1655

Serial No. 09/027,089

Examiner: J. Souaya

Filed: February 2, 1998

For: METHOD FOR IDENTIFYING SPECIES OF SHIGELLA AND E. COLI USING

OPERON SEQUENCE ANALYSIS

SUBMISSION OF NEW DRAWING

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

The Office Action dated January 24, 2003 required new Formal Drawings which included the flow diagram on page 18 of the specification. The flow diagram is now presented as Figure 3. The drawings are submitted to expedite prosecution. There is nothing in the statues or rules which requires this flow diagram be presented as a Figure and separating this flow diagram from the text has not simplified the disclosure of the invention.

The text of the application will be amended with a complete Response to the Office Action identified above.

No fee is believed to be due in association with this filing, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required to facilitate this filing, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account #13-3402.

Respectfully submitted

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